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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Anglo-Egyptian Sudan

SUBJECT **Independence Front**

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1. Internal disagreements have threatened the unity of the Independence Front, but the Umma Party has thus far managed to win the other elements over to its policies on constitutional reform, which has been the main point at issue. The more liberal and nationalistic elements in the front have stated in a memorandum to the Governor-General that they opposed any agreement between Egypt and Great Britain which would allocate sovereignty over the Sudan to either country. This group would not object to the appointment of Egyptians to the Executive Council, so long as they acted in the capacity of Sudanese officials, and not as representatives of the Egyptian Government. As a result of his advocacy of this policy, in disagreement with the Umma Party, Muhammad Ahmad Mahgub resigned in July 1948 as Secretary-General of the Independence Front.
2. The Republican Party has continued to advocate the unity of all Sudanese parties. The Umma Party, however, sees no possibility of reconciliation with the Ashiqqas. Republicans advocate a single policy for the Sudan: complete independence and the evacuation of both the British and the Egyptians.
3. On his return from Cairo in July 1948, the President of the Nationalist Party, Ahmad Yusuf Hashim, resigned from the Independence Front because he could not accept the Draft Ordinance for the Sudan. Muhammad Muhammad Nil, Secretary-General of the Nationalists, also, initially opposed the Ordinance, but both officials eventually joined with the Umma policy in approving the final form of the Ordinance as promulgated by the Governor General.
4. The Ansar Youth Movement has on occasion disagreed with other more conservative elements within the Umma Party. The Ansar considers that, so long as the condominium agreement is in force, the Egyptians cannot be prevented from participating in the administration of the Sudan.

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